Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders Workshop Meeting Minutes September 19, 2012

The meeting was opened by Director Acton at 5:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Acton read the Open Public Meeting Act.

Freeholders Present: Dept. Director Laury, Cross, Vanderslice, Bobbitt (arrived 5:37), Timberman, Ware, and Director Acton.

Freeholder Committee Reports:

Administration- Director Acton reported that the County is investigation the possibility of going paperless for payroll checks. Mr. Wright discussed the favorable possibilities noting that 291 of the 460 employees already have direct deposit and that going paperless is the next logical step. Mr. Ford reported on Pro Act and their expected start date of the first week of October. 25,000 cards at Pro Acts expense will be mailed to Salem County households. Director Acton showed a proof of the e-newsletter. She further discussed the possibility of changing the late fall meeting schedule for the Freeholder meetings. It was also determined that the new office complex will be called the **Salem County Fifth Street Complex**.

Public Service-Mr. Vanderslice reported that the College School Board Search Committee has been activated as twp appointments for that Board are coming up at the end of October.

Health- Mr. Bobbitt reported that new Director of the Health Department is to be appointed this evening, Staci Jennings. That flu shots are beginning and that the position of Veterans Officer for the County is still in the process of receiving applications.

Social Services- Ms. Timberman stated that the Salem-Bridgeton shuttle was growing in numbers; many riders want the shuttle to stop at the Amish Market. She has also asked that Katherine Mills begin speaking at Rotary's and other service organizations to spread the word about the County's programs on culture and tourism.

Public Safety- Mr. Cross commented on the success of the County 911 service, and the upcoming memorial to fallen firefighters that will be ready sometime in October. He suggested that the Freeholders need to discuss the fact that the Prosecutors Office is down about three assistant prosecutors. There is a high turnover in the position because we cannot match the private sector salaries.

Transportation, Tourism, Agriculture- Mr. Ware commented on the recent grant from the State Rail Plan for our short line railroad in the amount of \$1,350,000. This is not associated with the TIGER Program so it is additional money.

Public Works- Mr. Laury commented on the agreement being worked out with the Community College wherein they will pay the County approximately \$40,000 to have our road department do much needed work on their parking lots. From the storms of 2011 we have only one bridge and two roads that need additional work, a great success story in pulling our resources together to get this job done. Fort Mott roadway is suffering surface damage because of high truck traffic volume associated with a Delaware project moving dredge spoils. The Solicitor has put the State and the contractor on notice of this damage. There are two upcoming meeting with residents who have drainage and or ditch problems adjoining County right of ways.

Presentation

Louis Joyce- County Planner. Spoke about the status of the Open Space/Farmland Preservation program. The two cent dedicated tax, approved by voter referendum in 2002, nets about 1.1 million dollars per year. From that money two bonds issues are paid for: 1-9 million for easement purchase, and 2-2.6 million for the specific purchase of the Seabrook property. Annual cost of the bonds is about \$790,000 leaving just over \$300,000 per year for the Installment Purchase of easements. To date on one project is underway for Open Space; all of the rest have been farmland. He noted the continuing good partnerships with nonprofit agencies and the State for joint funding of these projects.

Deputy Director Laury made a motion, second by Freeholder Timberman, to approve the use of the Old Court House and Johnson Hall on the night of October 12 for a Ghost tour, under discussion Freeholder Vanderslice noted that there is no cost to the County, carried 7/0.

Deputy Director Laury made a motion to allow Women's Services to hold a candlelight visual in the Old Court House on October 3, with no actual fire, second by Director Acton, carried 7/0.

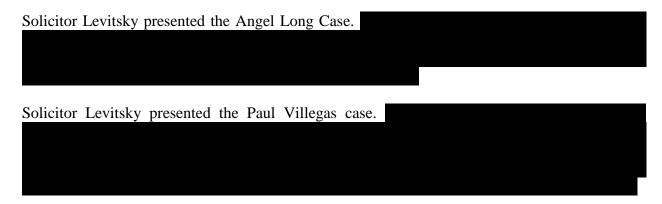
At 6:40 pm Deputy Director Laury moved that the Freeholders recess this workshop and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 enter executive session to discuss two workman's compensation cases, Paul Villegas and Angel Long, second by Freeholder Cross, carried 7/0.

Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders Executive Session Minutes September 19, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Director Acton at 6:40 PM

The stated purpose of the meeting is to discuss two workman's compensation cases, Angel Long and Paul Villegas.

Freeholders Present: Dept. Director Laury, Cross, Vanderslice, Bobbitt, Timberman, Ware, Director Acton. Solicitor Ross Levitsky, CFO Wright, Administrator Ford, Clerk Gage.



Deputy Director Laury made a motion to come out of Executive session, and to rescind the meeting at 7:04 PM, second by Freeholder Dale Cross, motion carried.

Respectively submitted,

Earl R. Gage Clerk of the Board